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PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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In re Application of: )  
MANABU KATO )  
Application No.: 08/607,169 )  
Filed: February 26, 1996 )  
For: SCANNING OPTICAL )  
APPARATUS : RECEIVED  
Assistant Commissioner for Patents SEP 20 1996  
Washington, D.C. 20231

GROUP 2500

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant respectfully directs the Examiner's attention to the documents listed below and on the enclosed Form PTO-1449. A copy of each document so listed is enclosed.

U.S. Patent 4,799,747  
U.S. Patent 5,418,639  
Europe 441,350  
Europe 461,660  
Europe 559,423

These documents were cited during prosecution of a European patent application corresponding to the above U.S. application. A copy of the European Search Report is enclosed. Inasmuch as this application has not yet received a first Office Action, it is believed that this Information Disclosure Statement is timely. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(3).

The concise explanation of relevance for the documents cited above is provided in the European Search report.

The Examiner is urged to study this information in its entirety and to form an independent determination of the materiality of the information to the claimed invention. Additionally, the Examiner is requested to indicate that this information has been considered by initialling the appropriate portion of Form PTO-1449.

Applicant's undersigned attorney may be reached in our California office by telephone at (714) 540-8700. All correspondence should continue to be directed to our below listed address.

Respectfully submitted,

  
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